

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE,

DURING my absence Mr. JAMES STEPHEN will Act as GENERAL MANAGER of CRUICKSHANK & Co, Ltd.

Wm. CRUICKSHANK,
General Manager.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1889. 1797

**UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF
CANTON, LIMITED.**

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN INTERIM BONUS of Twenty per Cent. upon Contributions for the year 1888 has been declared.

Warrants may be had on application at the Office of the Directors on and after the 1st day of May.

By Order of the Board,

N. J. EDE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th April, 1889 798

UNION CHURCH

**HI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF MEMBERS AND SEAT-HOLDERS,
ON SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST, 1889.**

MORROW (THURSDAY), the 18th April, at
 O'CLOCK.
 R. H. KIMBALL.
 Hon. Secretary.
 Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. [504]

HONGKONG CLUB.
 THE THIRD YEARLY GENERAL
 MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
 CLUB, will be held at the Club House, on
 THURSDAY, the 25th April, at 4.30 P.M.
 By Order,
 C. H. GRACE.
 Secretary.

HONGKONG, 16th April, 1889. 182

HONGKONG CLUB.

A N. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the CLUB, will be held immediately on the 17th of April, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of electing for the purposes set forth in the Resolution posted in the Hall of the Club House.

By Order, C. H. GRACE,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. 1801

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 6. of 1875, the Undermentioned Banks will be CLOSED

FRIDAY, the 19th instant (Good Friday) and
 MONDAY, the 22nd inst. (Easter Monday).
 FOR THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF
 INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.
 JOHN THURBURN,
 Manager, Hongkong.
 FOR THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AU-
 STRALIA, AND CHINA.
 T. H. WHITEHEAD,
 Manager, Hongkong.
 FOR THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING
 CORPORATION,
 G. E. NOBLE,
 Chief Manager.
 FOR THE COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Agent.
OF THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION,
LIMITED.
E. W. RUTTER,
Manager, Hongkong
Hongkong, 17th April, 1885. 1794
PUBLIC AUCTION
OF

WE Undersigned has received instructions
to Sell by Public Auction, on
TUESDAY,
the 23rd April, 1889, at 2.30 P.M., at
No. 43, Wyndham Street,
the Residence of S. J. GOWER, Esq.,
THE WHOLE OF HIS
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,
comprising—
SITTING & BEDROOM FURNITURE,
GLASS, &c., &c.
The above will be on view on **MONDAY NEXT.**

G. R. LAMBERT,
 Auctioneer.
 Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. 1798
 TO LET.
 NO. 51, PEEL STREET.
 EDWARD GEORGE,
 5, Queen's Road.
 Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. 1798
 ANNE, CRAWFORD & Co.
 constantly receiving New Supplies of
 GROCERIES AND PRESERVED
 PROVISIONS of all kinds,
 BUTTER, &c.

Best English CHEESES.
English-Cured Side BACON.
Specially Selected YORK HAMS.
German ASPARAGUS in Water.
American Canned PROVISIONS.
CRACKED WHEAT

SHORTBREAD.
Huntley & Palmer's BISCUITS.
Mackenzie's Digestive Wheaten BISCUITS.
Also,
The Best Brands of WINES, SPIRITS,
and BEERS.
Special Agents for the JAPAN BREWERY
CO., AYALA & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.
AND CHAMPAGNE.

Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. 122

THE "BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE British Steamer

"BENALDEZ."

Captain Thomson, will be despatched as above
on MONDAY, the 18th inst., at ONE P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. [602
FOR SHANGHAI.
 [The Steamship
 "PEKING,"
 Captain G. Heusermann, will be despatched for
 above Port TO-MORROW, the 18th inst.,
 FOUR P.M.
 For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSEN & Co.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.
FOR SWATOW, AMOY, AND POOCHOW.
The Company's Steamship
"HAILOONG,"
Captain Beach, will be despatched for the
above Ports on FRIDAY, the 19th inst., at
EIGHT.
AGENTS:

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 16th April, 1889. [793
FOR NEW YORK.
THE Al British Ship
"HALLGERDA,"
Captain J. Mackenzie, shortly expected, will
call here for the above Port, and will have
quick despatch.

SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, 17th April, 1889. 1799

lition of the duty and *lekia* on this great staple export would entail. The Inspector.

general naturally enough cannot confer any special privilege, and the Government, considering that the revenue there apparently must be no source from which the deficiency could be made up.

Yet there is a means by which the tea trade might be saved, and the Customs revenue still maintained. It may not have occurred to our Canton contemporary, and perhaps if it had the idea is one that would not have occurred to the members of the Council, or even to the Viceroys of the Kwang. The *lehka* on foreign opium collected in 1888 amounted to Tls. 6,222,406, almost one-third of the entire Customs revenue. Yet this is collected on the foreign drug only, and the native opium consumed in China—which amounts to a much larger quantity—yields nothing at all for the Government. The small duty, however, which is levied on the foreign drug is in danger of being greatly reduced by the competition of the lightly taxed home product. As this improves in quality, still maintaining its cheapness, it will gradually displace the foreign drug and nullify the import of the latter will be no longer considered a very important source of revenue. The Chinese are now working their duties on the system of killing the goose to get at the golden eggs: in order to secure a present gain they are sacrificing two of the principal articles of import and export. They have secured, by the Additional Article to the Chefoo Convention, the right to tax foreign opium at their own pleasure, and they are using it accordingly. The trade cannot be killed in a day, because the richer class of opium smokers will not have the native drug, but the time may come when it will be so well grown and prepared as to commend itself to the taste of the most fastidious. Whenever this happens there will be a demand for Indian and Persian to fill the gap, and with it will meet the port duties which will be a very important source of revenue in the treasury. The Inspector-General cannot be blamed. He has made a proposition to tax the native opium on the same basis as the imported article, but this suggestion was over-ruled by the Tseung-Yamen, and he can now only await the turn of events. Sir ROBERT HART is a clever man, and a most successful administrator. He has been a very successful manager of China that rests on a stable foundation, and owing almost entirely to his energy, resource, perseverance, and power of concentration. But he is only human after all, and therefore cannot change Chinese nature, cannot always make Chinese officials see as he does. He has failed in this question of taxation, but he has no means to regret it, for the loss which he has suffered in the duties on tea would cause, hence he cannot recommend it, and hence the impotence—of his arguments in favour of the *status quo*. Our Canton contemporary's suggestion will not be adopted straightaway, but it needs no prophet, we think, to say that unless the tea duties be remitted it will come to the same thing in the end.

THE HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The Sanitary Board met on the 10th inst. There were present—Dr. Ayres, President; Major-General N. G. VICE-PRESIDENT; Mr. Soper, Acting Surveyor-General; Mr. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., Mr. N. G. MITCHELL-INNES, Acting Registrar-General; Hon. Wong Shing, and Mr. H. McCallum, Secretary.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the local authorities, referring to the Board's recommendation as to the proposed site for an epidemic hospital, stating that His Excellency the Governor would always be ready to receive and give his best attention to all suggestions of Sir by the Sanitary Board, and to direct, individually, of the public health.

The PRESIDENT proposed that a Committee be formed consisting of Dr. Cantlie, the originator of the scheme, and a representative of each representative of the Chinese and the Surveyor-General, who could give information as to what sites were available, and that they be asked to report on the subject.

Mr. FRANCIS seconded and the motion was carried.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Inspector of Live Stock with reference to the slaughter of Chinese cattle which were thought to be infected with the plague. He asked for compensation to the owners if they would send in their applications, but that they had refused to do so.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he thought that the owners did not care to apply for compensation, the matter ended.

Mr. FRANCIS said he thought there must be some misunderstanding about the matter. He proposed that the members of the Board and the Registrar-General be requested to make enquiries regarding the matter.

Carried.

Hon. WONG SHING seconded.

The Board adjourned to the 24th inst.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 15th inst. There were present—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir WILLIAM DE YEUX, K.C.M.G.

Hon. F. STEWART, LL.D., Colonial Secretary.

Hon. A. J. LEACH, Acting Attorney-General.

Hon. E. G. GODFREY, C.M.G., Acting Colonial Treasurer.

Hon. N. G. MITCHELL-INNES, Acting Registrar-General.

Hon. P. RRIE.

Hon. J. H. WILKINS.

Hon. C. P. CHATER.

Hon. J. BELL-LIVING.

Hon. B. LAYTON.

Mr. A. SMITH, Clerk of Councils.

FINANCE.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the minutes of the proceedings of the Finance Committee at its last meeting, and moved that the votes recommended be passed.

Carried.

THE HONGKONG TREASURY SECONDARY OFFICE.

- REPORT.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Report of the Director of the Observatory for 1888.

THE PRAYA RECLAMATION BILL.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR said he was unable to proceed with the Reclamation Ordinance to-day, the difficulty being that he was not yet able to fix with sufficient approximation the area of the land to be reclaimed, and the schedules. They are being prepared as rapidly as possible and as soon as they are completed the Bill will be finished. He took the opportunity while on the subject of the Ordinance, to refer to the fact that the Ordinance was proposed to the effect that this Ordinance is the original form was drafted on behalf of the colonists in England and submitted to the Government by Mr. Charter. I never heard of any objection being made to it, but I was told by a gentleman in whom I have great confidence, and he mentioned it to me as being talked about. I think it just as well to mention it, if anything has been in circulation, to give them that idea, the report is absolutely without foundation. Neither Mr. Charter nor any one of the lietholders ever saw or, I believe, heard of the Ordinance until a few days before it was brought into the Council. The Ordinance was prepared by the Attorney-General of Hongkong in autumn and was then sent to the Colonial Office. It came back very much in its original form, and I have no doubt that it was presented to the Attorney-General's Office.

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